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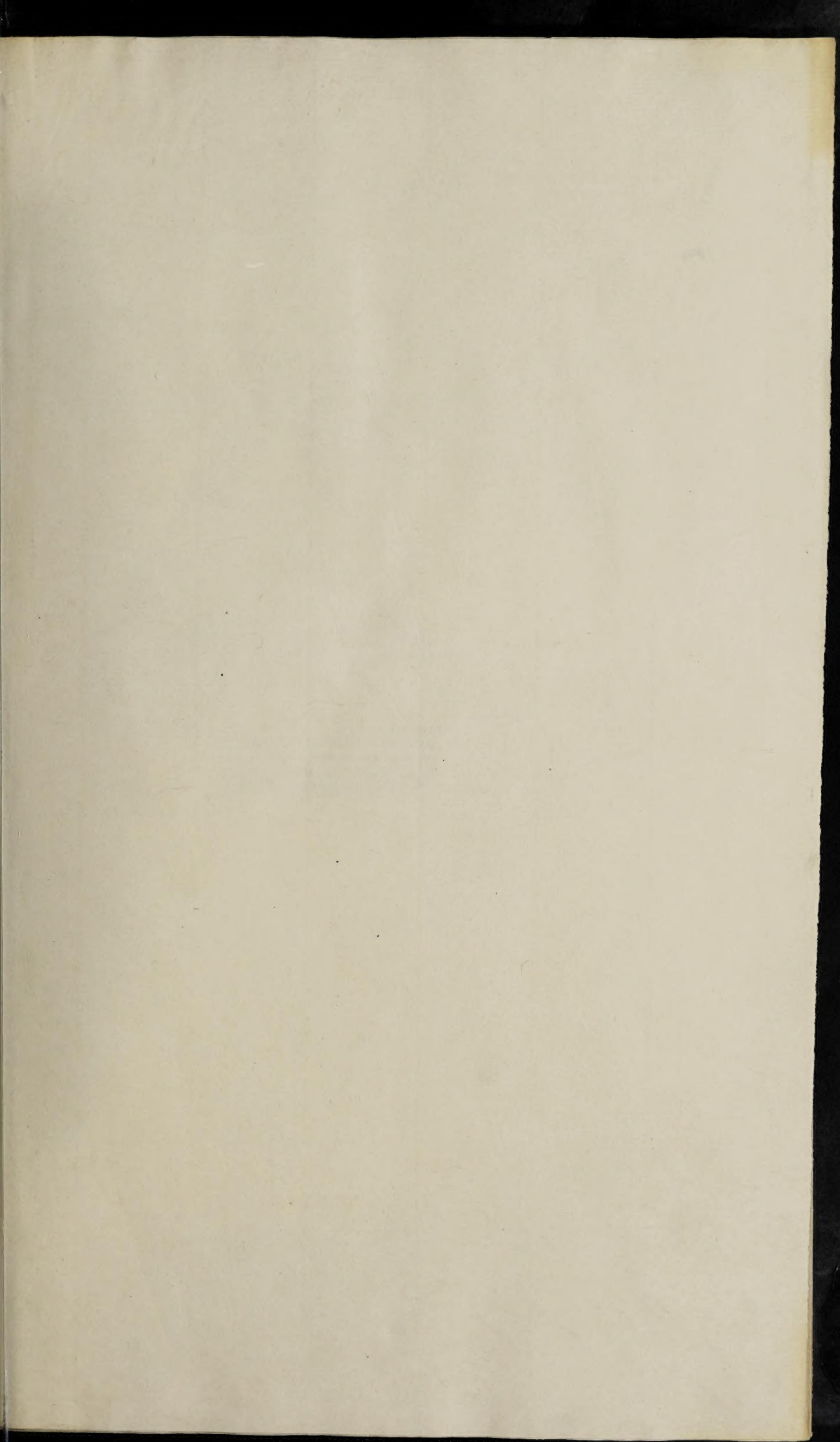
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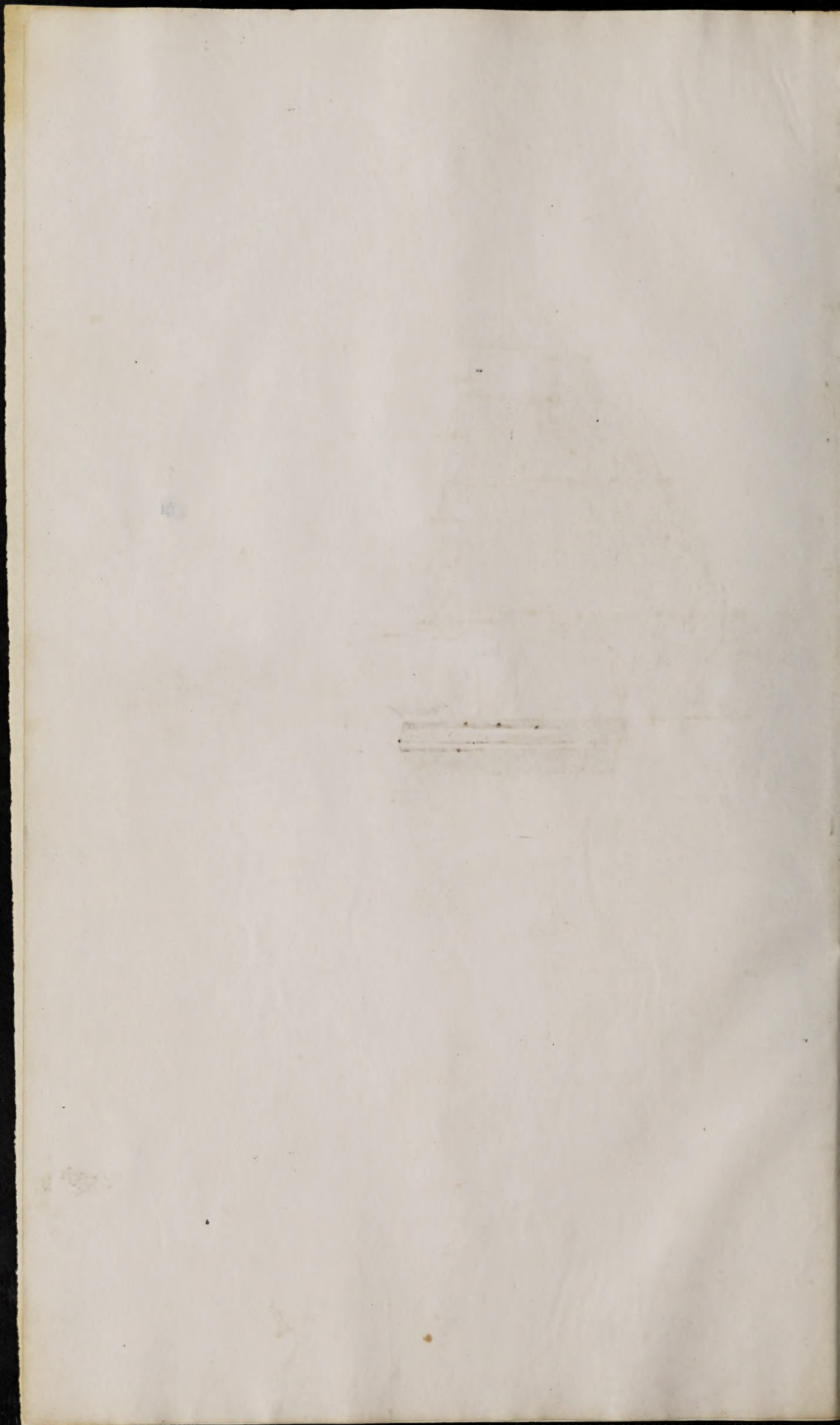
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alex. Coffin



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Names of the Crew & Passengers of Ship Alexander Coffin of New Bedford
 bound on a voyage to San Francisco Upper California

	Capt -	All Hands	Cape Cod & Along Shore
	1 Mate	Calcut T. Jenney	New Bedford
	2 Mate	Henry J. Clifford	Falmouth
	3 Mate	Wm. W. Howland	New Bedford
	Sailing Mast	Agustus Hale	Down East. Mate of Minnie
	Steward	Mamuel Jackson	St. Jago's Cape de Verde
	Cook		
	Cabin Boy	Ezra T. Jenney	New Bedford
	Carpenter	Leonard Fisher	Peap Island
Y.W.	Seamen	George McMorris	New Bedford
	"	George T. Phoebe	New Bedford
	"	Wm. F. Holt	New Bedford
	"	Isaac Ruppell	Hicks (Peabury House)
	"	Gyranth W. Colson	New Bedford
	"	Thos. Almy	New Bedford
	"	Frank Atkins	New Bedford
Low.	"	Geo. A. Jackson	New Bedford
	"	Chris. Holt	New Bedford
	"	Antonio St. Jago	St. Jago's
	"	James F. Anthony	New Bedford
	"	Alanson Harriok	New Bedford
	"	Thos. Williams	New Bedford
	"	Charly Swede	No Work in Particular
	"	Frank Frenchy	" " " "
Passengers		Wm. J. Heath	New Bedford
		A. B. Mayhew	New Bedford
		Chas. H. Chandler	Dover - Me.
		Chas. M. Buck	Dover - Me.
		Amos. Morse	Dover - Me.
		Cabine I. Rodgers	Dover - Me.
		David Anderson	Dover - Me.
		Elias J. Hale	Way Down East, Mate of Minnie
F.P.		Elisha Wilbourn	New Bedford
F.P.		Georg Miller	New York

THE
END
OF
THE
WORLD

Journal of a voyage from New Bedford to California
Commenced August 12th 1849.

Wind N.E.

Tuesday August 12th 1849

The Ship Alexander Coffin sailed from the Harbor
of New Bedford about 10 o'clock Sunday am. went
round the Cape to San Francisco - California
Her cargo consisted of Gumbee Gunka Tobacco & specu-
ims. We had a very little whole salt henz. during the
day. About 6 P.M. The first 32 mates chose their watches
at which time we found out we had taken away two
men with us, more than our complement. But as they
proved both of them first rate men. No one has yet
regretted their stowing themselves away. To ends the first
24 hours. all well & in good spirits.

Lat. 42° 30' N.

Long. 70° 00' W.

Wednesday August 13 - 1849

This day commenced with light
winds. then being considerable motion to the ship nearly
all of the passengers were sea sick & although I am perfectly
acquainted with the complaint yet from their looks I
could easily believe they ^{were} suffering extreme pain. If any of
them could have been landed during their sickness I
hardly think they would have trusted themselves on
the sea again. There was nothing more than ordinary
happened today. To ends this 24 hours. —

Lat. 44° 37' N Long. 70° 09' W.

Lat. 40° 50' N Tuesday Aug. 14 - 1849 Long.

Light wind & pleasant weather spoke Brig Northman of
Boston bound from Mobile to Boston on account of a leak
she having started for Barcelona Spain loaded with timber
The came on board of us to dine & took letters home for us
The past night winds employed in furling & unfurling sails
& filling & dregging.

Lat. 40° 50' N



Wednesday August 15.

Begins with Calms Wind S.E. Head S. E. by S.
Gather pack from Buoy from S.W. head S. E. by E.
At sudden Sails set and aloft. Passengers still continue
sea sick. Lat 39.31° N Long by Chron 68.07° W
Saw Porpoises - to windward.

Thursday Aug 16.

Begins with fresh winds from N.W. Cross S. E. by E.
7 P.M. pumped ship & found a good deal of water
in her. found the leak to be both sides of her
stem

Leak 1400 buckets in hour

Lat 38.17° N Long 65.15° W

Friday Aug. 17.

Begins as the last ended. Breeze S. E. by E. Middle
& latter light winds found the ship did not
leak so much in light weather.

1500 buckets in 4 hours

Lat 37.39° N

Long 62.54° W

Saturday Aug 18th

Begins with light winds steering S. E. by E. wind
to the eastward - middle light winds head from
S.E. 5 P.M. heaved ship - latter fair breeze from
the Eastward head to the South

Lat 37.05° N Long 62.39° W

Sunday Aug. 19.

Begins with fresh winds from the Eastward head
S. by E. Middle light winds 6 A.M. heaved ship
head at N.E. to E.

Lat 35.45° N Long 61.46° W.

Saw a Bay heading to the North

Passengers still sea sick -

Frederick, Dec 21

Feb. 34. 111 N. Long. 104° 55' 38" W.

Wednesday Aug 22

Cont. 3A. 10 A.

Wm. Lloyd Garrison

Thursday Aug 23rd

Some Buoys & Ocean weather's going along about - Fair - Breeze
with Studding Sails out. Have seen a great deal of Seal
meat today. If the wind continues to hold in this quarter
& to blow as fresh as it does at the present time we are
in hopes to fall in with the whaler by Sunday night -
three barrels! Per spence received - & paid a note. The sick-
ness are all recovering from their sickness, in part
some are entirely so already. When they all recover their
health & spirits, we shall have some rare fun intermingled
with instrumental music for we have several musicians
with the instruments on board.

Lat. 32 34 + Long. 50.38 77-

The weather has been
cloudy all day. Last night the look-out so bad
that I slept but little all the night.

Passengers have about recovered their spirits &
employ themselves in playing whist & in cleaning
their firearms, preparing to use them in California.
Saw whales at 5 P.M. & moved the starboard quarter
boat, to strike them, but after a fruitless chase
of an hour they returned to the ship, which mean-
time lay to within the main yard aback, with
no success for their labour except an increased appetite.

Latitude 32.54



Longitude 48.54

Saturday Aug 25

Light winds & pleasant weather, nothing unusual happen-
ed. Part much the same. Saw Black fish after
dinner but as they were galled it was thought best
not to attempt to take any. Towards night saw
dolphin and tried several times to catch them both
with lines & with the third mate's grains, but
without success. Passengers all well. Towards night
it fell away calm & remained so nearly all night.

Lat 32.25.7 Longitude 47.51.8

Sunday Aug 26.

Light winds & calm. Saw dolphins in the morning but did
not take any. The weather continuing calm did not make
much head way. Saw Dolphin again in the afternoon
& one of the passengers took one with a hook & line. The H-
our third mate afterwards took one with his grains, and
we had an excellent Chowder for supper. This day
is so still on shipboard that a person's thoughts
often recur to his home than on any other day.

Lat 32.27 Longitude 47.51.8

Monday Aug 27.

Began with light winds & calm & continued thus the day. The weather still continues pleasant. Saw dolphin but didn't catch but one. Towards noon saw a school of Albacore, got our lines in readiness but did not succeed in catching any. In the evening had some music from the Populgers, a single & Orphoed. It sounded beautiful and forcibly reminded me of Home.

Lat. 32.25 Long. 41.15 W

Tuesday Aug 28th

Light winds & pleasant weather. Saw dolphin but caught none. Nothing remarkable happened that I can think of. Some of the Populgers again began their grumbling. Come over the again owing to their not stirring sound sufficient. As long as they sit down & leave their heads up for castles as long the will experience the same feelings. In a word they are wise in their own conceit. Let them suffer I care not.

Lat. 31.38 N Long. 45.05 W

Wednesday Aug 29.

Began with fine breezes. Ship in sight off weather beam. Crew employed in breaking out the skin of the down again. Saw dolphin again but caught none. We began to think we are much favored with calm & light winds during this run. But as you the wind & we know it, is an ill wind that does no good to anyone. Saw Black fish this P.M. but did not have for them. The crew were all busy breaking out the after hole.

Lat. 30.35 Long. 44.34 W

Thursday Aug 26

...the wind was still increasing when I
...at to render it necessary to take in the top gallant
sails & the first. The wind was still increasing when I
...in.

Lat 30.33 N Longitude 44.26 W

Friday Aug 27

...a gale of wind. The ship laying too under a
close reefed main topsail & fore topmast stay sail, with
a pretty heavy sea on. About all the passengers
sick, and some of the officers nearly so. I have been
rather home sick lately, and look forward to the time
I shall probably be separated from my family as long in the
extreme - perhaps forever. But no I will not think so.

Lat 29.13 N Long 43.26 W

Saturday Sep 1st

Begins with strong gales. Laying too under a close reefed
main topsail & fore topmast stay sail wind from S.W.
...at 3 P.M. set main tail, soon
...set the 8 & 12 masted topsails & stts, nearly all the
passengers still remain sea sick - so we shall enjoy
...have fair weather.

Lat 28.52 N Long 42.53 W

Sunday Sep 2nd

Begins with strong winds & head about sea stirred out
the top & set the M.T. sail, soon after set the
fore & main T.C. sail & 18 m mast. The wind began
giving down the board night when we had a black
rain which continued through the night & stopped from
the frequent occurrences of calms & light winds that
we had got a fresh on board. I soon saw the ship
shoulder upon the sea and sent him out &
bring him to the anchor as he had seen me. I was
at this time
Lat 27.40 Long 41.12

7
The gales and after a while the young men
succeeded in taking him and he was
killed with his tail bit off probably by a shark. He was
his back for so that his length was gone. It was probably
very good something as the place was nearly empty. Then
after we caught a couple of fish called yellow tails
which made us an excellent dinner for supper.
After supper we had a squall which we took in
Royals & closed up J.G. sails, but it soon blew over
and we again made sail on the ship.

Lat. 27.15 N Long. 41.10 W

Tuesday Sep 24

Strong winds. Ship heads her course S.E. by S. and
goes along at the rate of 4 knots per hour. We have
at last fallen in with the trades but they are not
near N.E. as yet. But however they are hauling
fairer & fairer every moment. About 9 saw a sail
which proved to be a Dutch Gulliot. She was
steaming across our bow. About 10 saw another
sail a large Bark steering E.N.E. probably bound
to Europe. Had a squall of heavy shower rain at night.

Lat 25.53 N Long. 40.28 W

Wednesday Sep 25

Strong Breeze & pleasant weather. Ship heading N.E. by E
Saw a sperm whale at 9 P.M. on our weather bow
3 miles off. Passengers still rather quarrelsome but not
very sick. Great employed some sailors in sorting
clothes, some of which had rotten since he came on.
Nothing occurred worthy of note to day. Ship going along
at the rate of 6 knots & if we could only run the same
off or on our quarter we should soon see the Gold
Regions, But we must take it as we can get it
any way is better than a calm.

Lat 24.01 N Long 40.00 W

Strong winds and pleasant weather

Spent this day (Sat) I remember saw a small vessel
passed close to us to leeward of the vessel. I thought it
might be. Monday night had a storm & rain. I remember
no stirring. Let our ship heading S by E & S. E. to.

Lat. 20. 54 N Long. 36. 24 W

Tuesday Sep 10.

Strong winds & fair weather Ship heading S. E. by the wind
with J. L. sails clewed up. Considerable sea on and ship going
not more than 5 knots. Got up the Keel of a boat, with
them of Tern Port. It is a Vineyard sail boat. One of
the passengers still sea sick.

Lat 19. 11 N Long. 36. 02 W

Wednesday Sep 11.

Strong winds & good weather, weather warmer than
usual. Ship heading S. E. & S. E. by S. Towards noon the
Ship came up to her course S. E. Towards night took in
J. L. sails & kept them off all night. Expect they are
afraid of getting there too soon.

Lat 18. 50 N Long 35. 13 W

Thursday Sep 12

Strong winds & pleasant weather. Let J. G. sails, making
occluded weather according. Ship heading S. E. and
going about 6 knots. Crew employed in fitting masts
on the top gallant cross trees for the back stays to
reach through, to strengthen the masts so we can
carry more sail on the ship. God knows she
needs it bad enough. Toward night we had a
squall

Lat - 16. 42 N Long. - 34. 09 W

Friday Sep 13.

Strong winds & fair weather, nothing remarkable happened
today. Go along sailing well, and if God please we will
stand a chance to get there in the course of next
week or may not. I can prospect do not increase.
I shall begin to think I missed a figure in our going
across the sea.

Lat - 15. 23 N Long - 32. 48 W

... moved a mass more ...
... some prospect of getting to the
... by January next: this employed in the
... for the backstays to serve through the
... their widest claw up ...
... we have a little air stirring.

Lat 14.25 Long 32.00

Saturday Sep 15th

Strong winds. Two ship-packs round the ship
I went out on the bowsprit and succeeded
in catching one. From which we had a ...
made for supper. It is not a very good fish.
In the evening we saw Porpoises but did not
take any.

Lat 13.48 N Long 31.03 W

Sunday Sep 16th

Strong winds & rainy weather. Ship under
double reefed fore main & mizen top sails & fore
latter fore topmast stay sail & jib. More rain this
day than all we have had together before.
We succeeded in catching Considerable ...
... we were much amused by the capturing of
a chest on which Mr. Heath and myself were sitting
busily engaged in destroying open portions of an excellent
buff, and the way faces which the former made at
the prospect of being separated from his poor friend
(buff) were highly ludicrous. Nothing else remarkable
happened to disturb the usual monotony of a sea life

Lat - 12.15 N Long - 29.40 W

Monday Sep 17th

Calm weather this day. Nothing happened remarkable
... as we shall see later. The ...
... of land
... discouraged ...

Lat 12.32 N Long 29.51 W

Monday the 11th we sailed at 10:30 AM. The weather was fair with standing clouds out at sea. We were bound for the Bay at the mouth of the river. The tide was out and we had some trouble in getting under way. We began to sail about Cape Horn, but it being dark we ran.

Lat - 11.18° N Long - 28.11° W

Tuesday Sep 12

We were out at 10:30 AM. The weather was fair with standing clouds out at sea. We were bound for the Bay at the mouth of the river. The tide was out and we had some trouble in getting under way. We began to sail about Cape Horn, but it being dark we ran.

Lat - 9.54° N Long - 26.5° W

Wednesday Sep 20

Light winds & calms the greater part of this day. We had a little boat know as we shall ever get to the land. We were bound for the Bay at the mouth of the river. The tide was out and we had some trouble in getting under way. We began to sail about Cape Horn, but it being dark we ran.

Lat. 9.11° N Long. 26.27° W

Thursday Sep 21

Light winds & calms, raised a sail this morning. We were bound for the Bay at the mouth of the river. The tide was out and we had some trouble in getting under way. We began to sail about Cape Horn, but it being dark we ran.

Lat 7.55° N Long 25.48° W

Friday Sep 22

Strong breezes and rainy weather. Caught a great deal of water this day and filled several casks. We were bound for the Bay at the mouth of the river. The tide was out and we had some trouble in getting under way. We began to sail about Cape Horn, but it being dark we ran.

Lat. 6.35° N Long - 25.30° W

Sunday 23rd

Light weather & light winds nothing remarkable happened
Saw large schools of Albatross & 1 finback to windward
towards night saw schools of porpoises but could not
catch any. Nothing new.

Lat 4.56 Long 24.17 W

Monday Sep 24

Light winds & rainy weather Nothing remarkable
Don't know as we shall ever get to the Line
But know we stand at this rate. However
we will hope for the best and take things as
they come as we can't help it

Lat 4.10 Long 24.20 W

Tuesday - Sep 25

Light winds & rains much the same as the
preceding day. Caught a great deal of water
and have now nearly as much as when we
started. Nothing worth mentioning happened

Lat Long No Lat nor Long

Wednesday - Wednesday 26

Rainy weather and light winds
Saw an English Bark and sent some
letters by her. In the afternoon saw a Brig
& Ship bearing away from us heading north
too far off to speak

Lat 3.48 Long 24.15 W

Thursday - 27th - Sep

Fair weather & good winds Saw four sail of
vessels this day nothing remarkable happened
that I can think of.

Lat 3.12 Long 24.50 W

Friday - 28th

Fair weather & good winds fell in with the
U. S. Trades this day and plenty of them hope
they will last us to Cape Horn but that
would be too favourable to happen

Lat 1.33 Long 26.07 W

Saturday 29th of September 1849

Fine weather and fair winds and plenty of them at that God grant they may continue so, for a month at least if no longer. Shall soon be across the Line & then we can talk about Cape Horn

Lat 01° 13' Long 27° 11' W

Sunday 30 of Sept. & last day

Seven weeks out and but just across the Line crossed it yesterday, and much to the downcast discomfiture did not see it. we told them because it was thick and hazy. one of them lost his hat as a tribute to old Neptune. Saw a Sail

Lat 1° 31' S Long 28° 20' W

Monday 1st day of October

Thank God we can now talk of Cape Horn without injuring our Cause we have got the trades strong and fair, although we cannot carry a studding sail yet, but hope to soon. when we do, with this wind will haul along at the rate of 10 knots. Bunt new main topsail

Lat 3° 17' Long 29° 47'

Tuesday

Fine weather and good winds. and we begin to see the difference between an old threadbare topsail and a new heavy Cotton Canvas one. The outside of our new boat is now done and all she lacks is quilting inside. When that is finished it will be one of the eight which Mr. Bourne expects to have made this voyage. I guess he will get specks in his eyes. We had some fault found with the provisions to day, we all think they are not good enough, so we spoke to the "Captain" about them, and he after considerable blustering about his consequence, said if there were any better in the ship we should have them if he had to break out check to the Nelson for them, we will see if he is as good as his word

Lat 5° 27' Long 30° 57'

Wednesday Oct 3rd

Fine weather and fair winds, Turned out this morning after hearing considerable noise on deck and found out that the Mizzen Mast was carried away below the lower tressle trees. They turned to after breakfast, sent down yards came up with upper rigging sent down masts and came up with lower rigging, in short stripped the mizzen mast to a good line, we then rigged a purchase sent them hooked on to the top of the lower mast when lo and behold about eight feet parted ^{from it} and was lowered down on deck when we found it was a complete mass of rot. and the only thing we are left to wonder at is that the Mast stood through so many heavy blows, without giving trouble before this. The good ship Alex Coffin is now a Brig. I expect the Main Mast will soon follow, however the ship makes as much headway as before so we cant find any fault with her

Lat $7^{\circ}35'$ Long $32^{\circ}09'W$

Thursday Oct 4th

Fine weather and fair winds, the watch employed in fitting the stump of the mast for a new head nothing remarkable happened this day that I can think of. The wind hauled aft and I expect we shall soon be going off before it.

Lat $10^{\circ}20'$ Long $33^{\circ}08'W$

Friday Oct 5

Fine weather & fair winds. The wind has hauled aft and we go toiling along at the rate of 9 knots. The head of the mast is fast progressing towards perfection and will soon be better than the old one.

Lat $12^{\circ}50'$ Long $34^{\circ}08'W$

Saturday Oct 6

Fine weather & fair winds, Ship before the wind. The head was this day hoisted up and the bolts we driven in so we shall soon have a third mast to our Brig.

Lat $15^{\circ}07'$ Long $34^{\circ}53'W$

Sunday Oct 7

Thick, hazy, weather and light winds ship going slow and sure before the wind, by the appearance of things now I should judge that the trades will not last us much longer. at any rate we will make the most of them while they do. turned to today
Lat 16.58 N Long 35.24 W

Monday Oct 8th

Light winds & fair weather. what little wind there is, is nearly aft, but there is hardly enough to make any account of. Think we shall have the wind from the westward in long. But hope we shall have it there off Cape Horn nothing remarkable to day, saw three sails, bound to the northward
most finished Lat 17.40 Long and sail made ^{on it}

Tuesday Oct 9th

Fair weather and fresh breezes, the wind still hangs on in the old quarter (i.e. aft) and if we have it so 2 weeks we shall be up to the Cape, pray God we may be. I for one want to get there, fore soons. nothing remarkable happened this 24 hours
Lat 18.54 Long 37.27 N

Wednesday Oct 10

Fair wind & fine weather two of the best things there are. and are seldom seen in company (at sea) However they seem to go hand in hand this voyage. so much the better the more they are inclined to be cronies the sooner we shall get to California nothing to be remarked as the fellows said when asked what the news was.

Lat 20.23 Long 37.45 W

Thursday Oct 11

Fine weather and fair winds, The air grows cooler as we get further south, and we can perceive a difference already in the temperature. I expect we shall feel it more off Cape Horn
Lat 22.58 Long 39.25 W

Friday Oct 12th


Light winds & fine weather ship going along fine
sterning S.W. by S. Caught a Porpoise this Am. and
had his Liver fried for dinner. it tastes similar to
a Hog. Nothing unusual happened this 24 hours.
Towards night the wind lulled and we had
it calm till about half past 10 P.M. when a
fair breeze sprung up aft. and so continued
through the night

Lat. 25° 32' Long 40° 28'

Saturday Oct 13. Strong winds & fair weather
The wind kept blowing through the day
& towards night we had strong winds from
E. S. E. ship heading S.W. by S. — and making
7 knots.

{ Lat 26° 53'
{ Long 40° 40'

Sunday Oct 14 Strong winds and Cloudy
weather weather nothing new this Am. This
P.M. it began to blow heavy and great sea
running got the ship before it. under double
Reefed Mizzen & sail & single reefed fore & main

 Sprines

{ Lat 28° 13'
{ Long 41° 50'

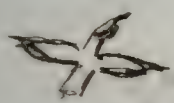
Monday Oct 15 Gale of wind. Ship under
close reefed fore & main & topsails & foresail
going nearly before it. Altogether it is a pretty
heavy gale & very rough.

{ Lat 30° 45' S.
{ Long 43° 53'

Tuesday Oct 16 weather moderating & wind
& sea going down. we have had it pretty
cold two or three days back as we are
off the River La Platte now. made more
sail on the ship today and are going
along fairly

{ Lat 33° 09' S.
{ Long 46° 02' W

Ship Alex Coffin at Sea Oct 17
 Wednesday Am. Fine breeze and cloudy
 weather we are now off the mouth of the
 river La Platte, & if we get-by without one of
 those Torridoes which are peculiar to it, we
 shall be lucky. Nothing remarkable has happened
 to far this day - P.M. The wind began to die off
 just after dinner & at three o'clock it was
 stark Calm in a little while a light-fanning
 sprung up abean off the land, and so ends
 our dream of fair winds, and for a time our
 prospect of seeing Cape Horn.



(Lat Observed
 (Long 48° 50" West

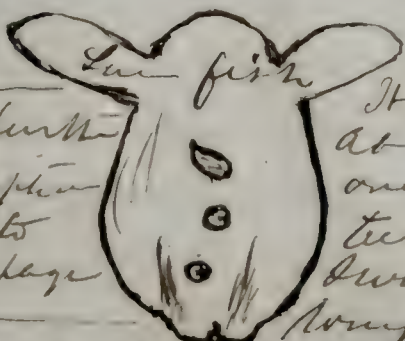
Thursday Oct 18th Commences
 with light winds & fine weather. The swell still
 up and both to go down. The ship backed her
 up and heading S.W. by S. Towards 9 o'clock the
 wind knocked her off to S.W. by W. nothing remarkable
 happened. Saw Porpoises, Crew employed in mending
 Fore Top mast haysail in order to get ready for
 Cape Horn.



(Lat 36° 39"
 (Long 49° 27"

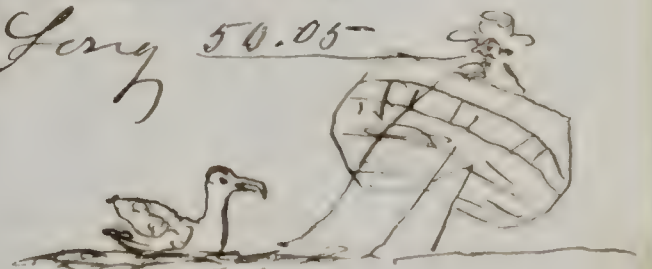
Friday Oct 19th Commences with
 light winds & Calms. Middle & latter parts the
 same Towards night - had a fine breeze up -
 set studding sails both sides and went along
 quickly. Caught two "Speckled Haggles" (Cape
 Horn Pigeons) as the sailors term them,
 and hauled several "Cronics" (Albacores)
 nearly aboard but did not save any. Saw
 a Sun fish taken aboard & caught him
 And if any one had told me there was
 such a looking fish I should have thought
 they were gossing -

(Lat 37.05
 (Long 50.05



It has no tail, two fins
 at its extremity one
 on each side. has no
 teeth, but a round
 Swallow and a hard

Horny substance in place of teeth. It has two
 eyes rather larger than an ox's, just back of the eye is an
 opening for respiration, altogether it is the most misshapen thing I
 ever sent into the world



Saturday 20th Comm.
 light winds still at first same
 latter part strong breeze. The main sails
 set along & aloft & running S.W. 1/2 S. Mr
 Heath one of the passengers shot a Goney
 90 yards off. flying. This may seem impossible
 but is rendered less so when we consider
 that they measure from 10 to 15 feet
 across the wings from tip to tip, have
 a folliculation in the evening, and all
 hands had a little something to take.
 one thing I nearly forgot. (it) Called all
 hands to take in the ^{first} topmast studding
 sail, nothing else remarkable happened
 (Lat 38° 22" N
 (Long 51° 56" W

Saturday 21st - Had a southerly
 and a pretty heavy one at that. Kept topsails, and stood
 to the westward. Spent yet to Cape Horn at that rate
 this year or next, at least steering west by south
 I caught 8 speckled Hg gulls & one Cape Pigeon today.
 Let them all go again. The pigeons can bite hard
 with their beak which is like an eagle's. They are a
 beautiful bird. being white as the drifting snow, with
 brown wings and measure about 3 feet from tip to tip

Cape Pigeon



flying



in the water



(Lat 39° 29"

(Long 53° 21"



Spew a sperm
whale.

Sunday 22nd The southerly still
 continues; the ship making N. by E. under double
 reefed main & mizzen topsails & foresail. The fore topsail
 being on deck mending. I hope the next time they beat
 it, it will blow to ribbons; for too cruel to make men
 work on an old sail like that, when there is a new
 one below, which could be got out and bent in an hour
 towards night the wind lulled and the ship came up
 to South by East ^{on the other tack} she went having hauled a little to
 the westward.

(Lat 39° 59" S.

(Long 53° 38" W

Tuesday Oct 23rd Fine Cold weather. Ship heading S by W. took out the reefs from the topsails & set the mainsail & main Toppails & flyjibs. The weather is nearly as cold here as it is at home in December. Nothing remarkable happened this day that I saw at least I believe I am generally round enough to see everything that is going on, board ship. I hope we shall have the wind aft the rest of the week so as to get round the Cape as soon as possible.

(Lat 40° 44" North
Long 52° 59" West)

Wednesday Oct 24th Fine, cool weather, much warmer than it was yesterday, owing to the wind having hauled further to the westward, ship heading W. S. by W. & S. S. W. ^{to} S. W. by S. her Course. Yesterday got up the stove from below and set it up in the Cabin, which makes it quite comfortable below now. rather more so at least, than on deck, at present. I think it is strange we don't see any vessels along here, as we are right in their track. I for one should like to see one since I have some letters written already to send home. I should like ~~better~~ to get some from home better than to send them there, as I feel anxious to hear from the folks to know how they are getting along. I hope I may get a pile in California so as not to be obliged to stay there a great while. nothing remarkable happened

(Lat 42° 25"
Long 54° 22")

Thursday Oct 25th Commences with fine weather and fine wind 2 points beaft our beam. Ship going along nicely at the rate of 7 knots. I hope this wind will last till we double the Cape, that being the case we shall be more than 5 days doing it. Saw Porpoises this morning, struck one but did not see him. Had considerable sport last evening, in the Cabin, got up by Mr Heath who magnetized Mr Anderson. (told paperagers) He began by giving Mr A - a saucer with water in it & reserving one himself, he then proceeded to rub his finger on the bottom of the saucer (first having dipped it in the water) then passing his finger over his face in sundry places. Mr A - was to imitate him ⁱⁿ all his movements, and the bottom of his saucer being blacked with lamp smoke, he black his face from chin to forehead ^{and the convulsed laughter of the} rest of the passengers (Lat 45° 00"
Long 56° 27")

Friday Oct 26th Commences with fine weather & fresh winds, ship going along nicely with the wind on her beam. Nothing remarkable happened this day, that I can think of. Towards noon the wind hauled farther forward & knocked us off our course. We want to make a S.W. course, and if we can't make that, we shall fetch to the Leeward of the Falkland Islands. However if we have a plenty of wind we shant be much longer that way than the other. Towards night the wind veered up ship heading S. by W. Took in all three top gallant sails, and flying jib. Nothing then

{ Lat - 46° 56"
{ Long - 57° 48"

Saturday Oct 27th Commences with cloudy weather & strong head wind from S.W. by W. & W. S.W. middle part same later part fair, wind & weather ship heading her course S.W. by the wind with Royals set, at the fore & main, heard a Penguin alongside but could not catch sight of him. Nothing remarkable happened this 24 hours; but am in hopes something will fore soon. it get round the Cape. They had a regular drunk in the Cabin, last night, all but poor I. who being a New Bedford

... am not allowed to participate with Jerry Stand Down Easters & Barbarians, woe is me, my star is an unlucky one. I can sing with the Psalmist

"Jacky wouldn't - 'Cause he couldn't"

but can also sneer

And if he could; I'm sure he could not



{ Lat - 48° 26" North
{ Long - 58° 33" West

Sunday Oct 28th Commences with light winds from S. middle & latter part the same. Saw no thunder heard no blizz. Nothing remarkable happened that I can think of. { Lat - 50° 02"
{ Long 61° 12"

Monday Oct 29th Commences with strong
gales from S.W. & Rough weather Made Land, The
Falkland Islands this morning about 8 o'clock,
They look from the distance we were (30 or 40 miles)
as though they might be full places to lay a ship's
bones on. However we should try it with this ship.
Saw whales 6 different times today, in fact we were
fully surrounded by them all day. They were finbacks
and sulphur bottomed all of them, some of them very
large, all good sized. Nothing else of any moment
occurred to disturb the usual dullness of a sea voyage.
In the evening the Tonnies had a little bit of a time
by ourselves. The



(Lat $55^{\circ} 56''$ South
(Long $61^{\circ} 55''$ West

Tuesday Oct 30th Turned out this morning
feeling as though I had been dragged through a knot-hole
just first; found the ship going along nicely before the
wind with Studding sails out and strong swell on.
which is all we can ask. About 2 P.M. Carried
away the starboard fore topmast studding sail boom
in the fire. Sub down the piece and rigged out
a new one Nothing else occurred worth mentioning

(Lat $57^{\circ} 56''$ South
(Long $63^{\circ} 03''$

Wednesday Oct 31st Commences with fresh
breezes & 16 Continues. Studding sails out - on both sides
Ship heading S.W. Made Staten Land towards noon
a great distance off, say 30 miles. At 2 P.M. it
began to blow, and the wind came out - dead ahead
took in Studding sails, Clewed up fore & main keyholes
all three top gallant sails & double reefed the top sails
all ready for Cape Horn weather. Nothing remarkable
happened this 24 hours. Saw two seals to windward

(Lat $54^{\circ} 26''$
(Long $62^{\circ} 43''$

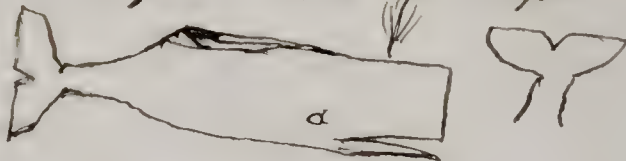


Thursday November 1st 1849 Commences
 with light winds, a little breeze - our beam. Thick the
 breeze out our topsails and set fore & main top mast the
 day sails. Last night in the first watch, split the
 main sail from head to foot parted the foot-rope &c
 this morning sent it down spoke out & got the new
 one & bent it. Raised a sail ahead this Am. (morn)
 rounded the Cape, steering a little more off than our
 tis now evening and we are not more than a mile
 astern of her. I expect to turn out in the morning
 & find her hull down astern of us for the old -
 Alexander Coppin can sail, if you put her to it

(Lat - $55^{\circ}28''$
 (Long $64^{\circ}12''$

Friday November 2nd Commences with
 light winds & calms. weather thick & hazy. The Bark still
 ahead. of us distant about half a mile, and but little
 prospect of being any nearer. Towards noon it began to
 and we double reefed the fore, main, & mizen topsails
 a short time after we passed the Bark to windward
 of her, & spoke her, she proved to be the Palladium of
 the London, bound to San Francisco, she was 87 days out,
 As we passed her we saw several passengers on deck,
 among others one Lady, but whether she was one of them
 or the Captains wife I couldn't say, should think the
 latter however. They soon after wore ship (and stood away
 from us) on the other tack, at 12 we did the same.
 In the evening the wind lulled & the ship came up
 to S.W. by us. The bark just in sight ahead. Saw whales

Cape Horn in sight
 There the flukes
 There goes flukes

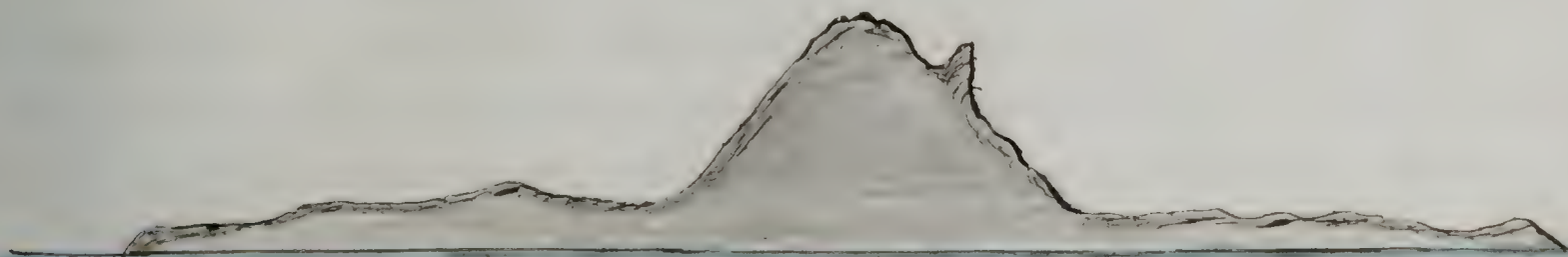


Lat $56^{\circ}12''$ South
 Long $66^{\circ}26''$ West

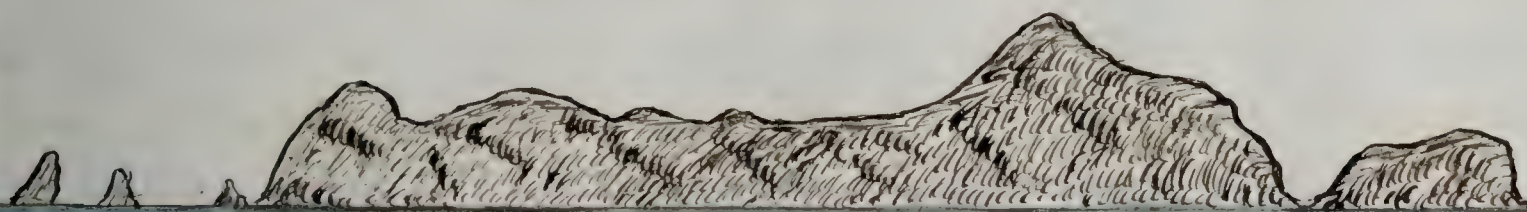
Saturday August 3rd Commences with
 Next Page

Ship Alexander Coffin Off Cape Horn & Diego's
83 Day out. Land Ho!

Made Land this am. at 3 o'clock which proved to be
Hermit's Island and Terra Del Fuego the former being
the Island on which is Cape Horn & when we turned
out this morning we had a good view of what every
one that has doubled it has not seen. "Viz"



W Cape Horn Bearing W.N.W. Distant 8 miles E
when about half way from the Cape to the Diego's raised
the latter and soon lost sight of the former astern.
The ship meanwhile under double reefed Topsails & Foresail
running S.W. by W. and making about 2 Knots. Leeway to 1 of leeward



Diego's Ramires Bearing W.N.W. Dist 4 miles

These are barren rocks to the S.W. of the Cape, the tops
covered with snow all the year round, and nothing else
on or around them but Seals & wild ^{four} goats, for which
they are celebrated. Nothing remarkable happened

(Lat - $56^{\circ}27''$ South
(Long - $68^{\circ}50''$ West

Sunday November 4th Commenced with light
winds which soon increased to a gale, took in sail & hove
the ship too under close reefed main Topsail & foretopmast
stay sail. In the afternoon it moderated down, so much
that we got all three topgallant sails on her, in fact before
night, the man at the wheel was whistling for a breeze.
Nothing remarkable happened during the day that I can
think of, saw Fairbacks & porpoises both in the afternoon.

(Lat - $57^{\circ}13''$
(Long - $69^{\circ}26''$

Monday November 5th 1849 Commences with light winds & calms & so continues through the greater part of the day, the weather pleasant and quite warm for the part of the world in which we are now. I hope it will continue as it is with the exception of the calms, for I should like good weather till our voyage is up, but am much afraid if we have gales of wind one day & a calm the next, that it will be a long one. Saw Spinn whales to day to windward. Raised two sails astern, and it is the general opinion that one of them must be the Bark which we spoke day before yesterday. Some of the Passengers saw a Seal to day, but I did not have the same good luck & therefore missed the sight.

(Lat. $56^{\circ} 59''$ North
(Long. $70^{\circ} 33''$ West from G—

Tuesday Nov 6th Commences with light winds & calms. Saw a bark to windward of us spoke her. She proved to be the ~~Atter~~ from Guayaquil bound to Hamburg. I think the Captain of her must be either English or American. She spoke such good English. we afterwards saw four other sails two English men one Spanish ship & one Yankee. The Yankee at first was too proud to show his Colours, but after considerable hesitation he did so. Nothing remarkable happened.

(Lat. $56^{\circ} 52''$
(Long. $71^{\circ} 35''$

Wednesday Nov 7th 1849 Commences with clear, calm weather. quite warm for the latitude. We all begin to feel discouraged, fearing we shall never get out of this hole, but whether we have the luck to or now we have one consolation. (i.e.) that we are not alone in our bad luck. for there are four sail in sight bound the same way we are. Nothing remarkable happened this day.

(Lat. $57^{\circ} 00''$
(Long. $72^{\circ} 04''$

Thursday November 8th Begins with light winds & calms, and continues so throughout till 9 P.M., when we had a light breeze from the Eastward. Great weather this for Cape Horn, if we continue to have such weather long, I shall disbelieve the stories I have heard about the place, for soon. Sail in sight to windward of us, a bark I begin to think that when we wished to get to Cape Horn, we only half wished, for I don't see, but we are as bad off as we were before we got there, with this one exception, we haven't quite so far to go. I had always been led to believe that when one got to Cape Horn one's voyage was as good as finished, but alas! & a black day! Our troubles have just commenced

{ Lat $56^{\circ}44''$
{ Long $12^{\circ}52''$

Friday November 9th Begins with light winds & calms. Nothing remarkable happened till night, when, praised be God the wind came out from the Eastward, and continued till I turned back at 10 P.M. Ship heading W by N. and going at 5 knots. There is still a heavy swell from the Westward, and will take some time to get smooth, but when it does we will go smoking I reckon. Bark in sight astern. at 4 P.M. but we shall soon run her out of sight. It begins to seem like getting to Valparaiso some time or other, say in 10 days if the wind holds as it is Nothing new

{ Lat. $56^{\circ}06''$
{ Long. $73^{\circ}46''$

Saturday November 10th Begins with fair wind & plenty of it. Ship heading W. by N. and going 8 knots. with fore top mast standing sail set on leeboard side. That's the way to go it, we can now bid good bye to Cape Horn in good earnest, hoping never to see it again. at least if circumstances will admit of going some any other way. Porpoises in sight this morning, did not take any, although we struck one & the iron chain. Towards night the wind veered & we took in the standing sail & fore & mizzen top gallant sails & single reefed the Mizzen topsail to favour the mizzenmast. Ship heading N.W. which with two points variation gave a N.E. or course.

{ Lat $54^{\circ}218''$
{ Long $77^{\circ}25''$ or $77^{\circ}21''$

Ship Alexander Coffin 91 Days out from New Bedford
bound Gold Hunting to San Francisco California

Sunday November 11th Commences
with light winds & fair weather Ship heading N.W. and going at
the rate of 6 knots. The wind fell towards noon and we
had it calm the rest of the day. Caught 2 Albatross (or Gony as the sailors call them) and two Blue Birds or Blue Jay, a
large bird about the size of a goose. Their plumage is the
softest and finest of any of the feathered tribe that I ever
saw. They are of a brownish blue colour, with a large blue eye
encircled by a narrow ring of white. The Gony measured 11
feet from tip to tip of his wings & the Blue Jay measured 6 1/2.
Nothing else happened worth recording in this work.

A. Bonaparte

(Lat. 52° 14" Course N.W.
Long. 78° 50"

Monday November 12 3 Months out from Home

Monday commences with light
winds & calms and so continues till 3 P.M. when it begins
on and before night blew a gale Ship under close reefed-top sails
& foresail. Saw a ship to windward of us, bound home stating
S.E. about 10 am. Saw a seal about a ships length to leeward
of us going the same way we were. Nothing new this day.

(Lat 51° 44" Course N.W.
of reducing sail on the ship. Long 79° 10"

Tuesday November 13th Commences with
the same gale we had yesterday and so continues, though the
day Ship under close reefed top sails fore & main sail & heading
N by N 1/2 W. Saw Porpoises two or three times but did not succeed
in taking any. Nothing remarkable happened, at least that
I saw.

(Lat. 50° 33"
Long. 78° 06"

Ship Alexander Coffin 3 Months & 2 Days Out

Wednesday Nov 14th Commences with the same Gale of the day previous, and so continues without cessation the day through. Saw two Penguins close aboard the am. and another in the afternoon. Saw Porpoises all round us but didn't take any. Caught two Cape Pigeons and let them go again after firing balls on their necks. There has been a tremendous swell on today. Ship heading W.N.W.

9 P.M. Glory to God. The wind has shifted & is now fair & on our quarter, but there is too much swell to make sail yet. Ship heading N.W. by N. N.W. is her course or rather into the N.E. Nothing remarkable happened.

Same as yesterday (Lat. No sight to day (Futolos Long. Do - Do - Do (Fendur

Thursday Nov 15th Duff Day. Commences with fair wind & fine weather, but a very heavy swell on so that whole Topsails is the most sail we can carry. Saw a large school of Black Fish close to the ship. I sincerely hope this wind will hold where it is, (W.S.W.) long enough for us to get in to Valparaiso, or Juan Fernandez whichever place we are bound to, if it does we shall be more than 8 or 9 days. at the most, for the swell would soon be with us. Nothing new or remarkable happened this day.

Course N.W. by N. for Valparaiso (Lat 49° 06" — (Long 78° 14' 30" by Chronometer

Friday Nov 16th Commences with strong breezes from the W. which soon increased to a Gale, and continued unabated through the day, at 10 o'clock am. hove the ship too, under a close reefed maintopsail and fore topmast staysail. At 12 am. finding she did not make very good weather of it on the larboard tack, we wore ship and lay too on the other tack the remainder of the day. At 6 P.M. saw a large bark to windward of us laying too on the other tack, about a mile distant. I hope she will keep that distance good through the night. Nothing new or remarkable.

Mid. West. Course N.W. (Lat 47° 00" South (Long 78.29 West Ship heading N.W.

Ship Alex. Coffin 97 days out from New Bedford
 Saturday November 17th Commences with
 the same gale of the day previous. Ship laying too under close reefed
 fore & maintopsails & foresail, on larboard tack. heading N.W. and
 making pretty good weather of it. I wonder how much longer
 this spell of weather is going to last, tis now nearly a week.
 since it came on. & no hopes of a change. 9 am. The wind begins
 to haul aft & swell with it. Loosed the main jenn topsail and set it
 at 11. ~~Loosed~~ the mainsail & jib. Towards night shook caps
 out the Fore topsail & set the Main Jap gallant sail. Ship
 going along nicely at the rate of 7 knots heading N.W. by N.
 (Lat 47.19 South
 Long 78.25 West

Sunday November 18th Commences with
 light winds & calm and so continues till 1/2 past 1 o'clock P.M.
 when lo behold! we got the wind on our starboard quarter.
 a good stiff breeze as much as the old ship would stagger
 under, at the time I now write (9 P.M.) the wind is aft
 blowing strong from S. by E. Ship heading S by W. 1/2 W. going along
 9 knots. The old Alex. Coffin is one of them, she is a bully
 ship to sail, when we can get a breeze to try her.
 Saw Porpoises and took one. Nothing else strange.

The Porpoise we took was a
 right whale porpoise (so called)
 it has no fin on the back like
 others and is in that respect
 similar to a right whale
 (Lat 46.00"
 Long 79.00"

Monday November 19th Commences
 with fresh breezes and fair wind (at that O. Jove! God of Thunderbolts
 save us; a fair wind all day! yes however strange it may seem,
 yet such is the "lemoncholy" fact, and be it remembered tis
 the first fair wind which has lasted all day, that we have
 had yet since we sailed, surely something strange is going to
 take place. But the best is yet to come, (it) now at 9 P.M.
 it bids fair to keep fair 48 hours longer. Away we go
 round Gold Hunting, with studding sails out on both
 sides "alou & aloft". Nothing remarkable happened.

(Lat 42.54"
 Long 78.45"

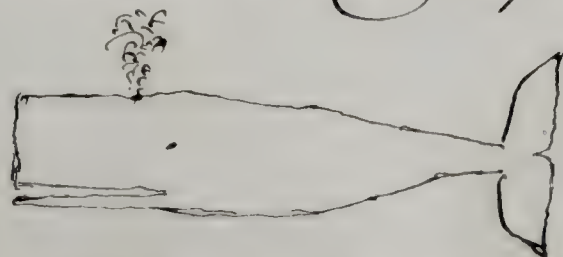
Ship Alex. Coffin 100 Day out from Yankee Land

Tuesday November 20th Commences with fine weather & fair wind i.e. (Due South) Ship heading Due North. One would be led to think by our Longitude & Course plotted; that we were bound anywhere but to "Valparaiso". Sometimes I even doubt that we are, but then I know we must either go there or to "Juan Fernandez" as our water is nearly gone. If this wind holds much longer we shall get to one place or the other, let it be which it may. Nothing strange or new this 24 hours. (Lat $40^{\circ}18''$) (Long 77.28)

On board Ship A. Coffin Wednesday November 21st Commences with strong winds and fair weather, wind on our quarter Ship heading N. by E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. and going along nicely at the rate of 7 knots per hour. Middle part wind stronger, Ship heading N. E. by N, but going to leeward of her course. By our Latitude & Longitude we reckon ourselves nearly up with a reef or rocks off Chili, and at this time 9 P.M. there is a man at the masthead looking out for it. Rather strange we should go any where near a reef when we have the whole Pacific before us and the wind aft. Saw Porpoises this am, but did not take any, our Capt. lost his hat (black Haver) trying for them (Lat $37^{\circ}47''$) (Long $76^{\circ}33''$)

Thursday November 22nd Commences with strong winds on our Quarter and plenty of it. At 9 am. it began to moderate and haul farther aft. At 1 P.M. sent up the mizzen Royal mast and got our Boats on the cranes. God knows we needn't have taken them in for any weather we've had so far. We have now a pretty fair prospect of getting in at Valparaiso, tomorrow or next day; as we are but 150 miles off by our lat & long at 4 P.M. I hope if we go in we shall stop at least, long enough to run off the Scum & get rid of a little spare Charge (a lais) Powder. I have long wanted to see Valparaiso, and am now in pretty good train for success. If the Old Man don't take it into his head to go to Callao. Poor Man he don't know his own mind, if he has any.

(Lat $35^{\circ}27''$)
Wind S.W. Course N.E. by E. Long $73^{\circ}36''$



Here the Blues!

Here the Blues!!

Here goes Flukes

Friday November 23rd

From our gun (to our board)

Friday Morning Nov 23. small light and buffing. Ship going along slowly through the water. Land in sight all round and breakers under our lee at day light. Put the ship off and stood out. Expecting to make Valparaiso before night. But at 12 o'clock was 34 or 40 miles to the southward. About 3 o'clock made the Light House & at 4 1/2 o'clock we came to our Anchorage off the City of Valparaiso. The Customs House officers and Harbour Master having been on board. Our Captain with two of the Passengers went on shore, and soon after the Crew took fresh water and, went also. I myself went in a boat with the "Lt. Long W. H. L."

Saturday - Sunday - Monday November 24. 25. 26th
In. Port. Valparaiso is a Place containing from 50 to 60 thousand Inhabitants. The Harbour if it can be called so, is perfectly open and it would be nearly impossible to build even it not for a Pier or Dole built within a few years. Immediately on stepping ashore, one is struck with the ancient and romantic appearance of everything. The houses are built of mud and straw whitewashed & the roofs tiled with earthen. There are some splendid houses there viz The Governor's American Consuls & Admirals. But the majority are low dirty buildings fit only for the beings who inhabit them. The Inhabitants are a dingy race, ignorant & jealous of "Foreigners". Some of the women are beautiful others frightful to look at. Some of the men are handsome and well formed others are loathsome to the sight and their language harsh to the ear. Some are at all communicative or sociable, unless drawn out. Still all are hospitable and accommodating. The men dress as with us except the wearing of the Ponca or Spanish Cloak. The women the same as ours except they wear no Bonnets, but in their place shawls. Both men and women are great Riders on horseback. The latter ride both with and without Habits. They have Cabs ("Cafes") and Diligences with Postillions on horseback. They are all fond of dogs and every member of a household owns one or more, which are allowed to run at large. There are mostly little miserable curs, but I saw some very fine. Setters. Spaniels. Greyhounds & Newfoundland dogs among them.

their heavy loads are either carried on mules' backs or in ox carts. Some of the mules I saw with very heavy panniers on, more I should think, than a horse could stand under. Their horses are smaller than ours, and shod the same. I went to ride with two others back into the country. During the ride, we were on the edge of Precipices. Certainly 3 or 400 feet high the sides perpendicular, and the passage but just wide enough for one horse. Thus we rode along looking over the edge into the chasms and gullies, thinking that one misstep would be the last of us. I for one thought that, if I could get out of the scrape without a broken neck, it would be the last time you see would catch me there; We all got back to the City safe after a three hours ride. The soil, the natives say is rich and fertile. To me it looks anything else, (but I must confess I am not much of a judge.) It has the appearance of being nearly all rocky. But on a nearer inspection, the rocky substance proves to be a hard, brittle kind of dirt, crumbling at the touch. I saw no grass or feed for cattle in or about the City, but they tell me that there is a species of clover in the interior which grows very strong. I saw what we call Butter Cups and Dandelions also Sweet fern. in the plains without the town and numerous other flowers which grow with us (viz Fox glove, Blue Bell, forget-me not pink and white Roses & Dahlias.) We rambled about the City till Monday P.M. at 3 o'clock when having got our water we all came on board and sailed for San Francisco California. We had it calm the rest of the afternoon till evening when a light breeze sprang up. I don't know how the rest feel about it, but for me I don't feel paid for stopping so long when one is in a hurry to see the Gold Regions. We left several American vessels in Port when we sailed most of them bound to San Francisco U.C. Some were regular traders between Talpa and the States. Their names were as near as I can recollect. The Ship Europe or Europa. Ship Rose of Natchez. 37 mos out - 100 - 100 - (They had been offered 1.12 1/2 cts but had not concluded whether to sell or not when we left - the crew were in the Calabrese for refusing duty.) - Bark Phoenix Cal. Brig St. John Cal. Ship Niagara Cal. bark Lucia Cal. Horn. Ship Republic Cal. bark St. Marys - Cal sailed from New Orleans last March. 9th. The Ship Olive Branch. Place for Cal. which sailed from Natchez the same day we did. Came into Talpa the day after we

Tuesday November 27th Commences with light breeze
& calm and so continues through the day till 4 PM when
we had a strong breeze from S.W. Ship S.W. by W. Nothing
remarkable happened to disturb the serenity of
a Sea Voyage. Saw Whales.

(Lat 32°35"

(Long time taken

Wednesday November 28th Commences
a strong breeze from S.W. Ship heading N.W. by W. W.
& going along 9 knots. Through the water. Our Carpenter
has bid the keel for another Boat. to be done probably
about a year from now, if nothing happens to prevent
working new. All hands rather low spirited at the
idea of being again in blue water. As for myself
I have got the regular dunks (alias) Blues.

(Lat 30°21"

(Long 74°57"

Thursday November 29 Thanksgiving Day
at home. Thursday commences with strong breeze and
fair at that. Ship heading N.W. by W. W. & going 8 knots.
On the strength of our belief that this was the
day for Thanksgiving at home, we had a good
dinner served up, which to judge by the quantity
eaten must have been considered good by all
concerned, it consisted of an excellent fresh Roast
and Pudding, with the "fixins" We were thoughtful of
and risk it at home this day.

(Lat 27°15"

(Long 76°59"

Friday November 30th Commences with
strong breeze on our quarter ship heading N.W. by W. and going
finely; at the rate we have gone since we left Valparaiso
I shall give her 35 days to get to San Francisco and no
more. Then hurrah for the back country & the Gold Plains.
When we get there I hope & pray I may get a big pile,
say 100,000, think if I can't get any more, 10,000 will
satisfy me, still 100, would be better. I will soon.
Nothing remarkable happened this day at least that
I heard of or saw

(Lat 25°42"

(Long 78°59"

Saturday December 1st 1849 first day of winter at home.
 Saturday Commenced with strong breezes from
 S.E. Ship heading N.W. by W. and going along nicely at the rate of
 7 Knots. Saw the porpoises. I suppose the winds we have now are the
 Trades, at any rate whether they are or not, I don't care so long
 as they are fair. I hope we may have nothing but fair winds
 till we make San Francisco Bay. Nothing remarkable happened
 this 24 hours. Saw the first "Booby" we have seen this passage.
 Wind hauled to S.E. by E. (Lat 23° 35" Course N.W. by W. ½ W.
 (Long 81° 41" —

Sunday December 2nd 1849 112 days out 16 Weeks.
 Commenced with Strong Winds
 from S.E. Ship heading N.W. by W. ½ W. and going 7 Knots. At 9 am
 wind lulled and she went about 4 Knots till Noon. Nothing
 remarkable happened this day. At 2 o'clock P.M. (from below)
 saw a large school of Black fish all around us; some of
 them very near. The wind continued very moderate thro' the
 day & night. Rather discouraging for Gold Lickers.
 (Lat 21° 57" Course N.W. by W. ½ W.
 (Long 82° 57"

Monday December 3rd 1849 Commences with
 light winds from S.E. & S.E. Ship going 5 Knots and heading
 N.W. by W. ½ W. wind fair or rather aft. Began to day to set up the
 Rigging fore & aft, preparatory to going into Port. I suppose
 it will have to, all be tarred after it is set up. Well I for
 one don't care how much they do it, since I don't have
 to turn to every time the watch is set. Nothing new or strange
 going on.



(Lat 20° 22" Course N.W. by W. ½ W.
 (Long 84° 50"

Tuesday December 4th Commences
 with Light winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. by W. ½ W. and going about
 6 Knots. Towards night the wind breezed and she went 7. I hope
 it will keep breezing till she goes about 12 Knots & then I shall
 be satisfied. The Passage from Talpa to the Line seems to be
 the longest part of the Voyage to me, I don't know for what
 reason. Nothing remarkable happened this day that I heard of
 or saw.

Rate 6 to 7 Knots. (Lat About 18° 30" Stone Taken
 Wind S.E. Course N.W. by W. ½ W. (Long About 86.00 Stone Taken

Wednesday December 5th Commences with strong
breezes from S.E. Ship heading NW by W and going 7 knots. The crew began
today to make a show for the purpose of landing lumber in
San Francisco. It looks rather small for this purpose but I suppose
it will answer. Nothing worth mentioning happened in the am.
P.M. Wind light, weather fine. Crew employed in setting up the
saw, rigging and other lumbering jobs. Nothing new or strange
Mind S.E. Force NW by W (Lat 17° 14" South
Long 88.50 West

Thursday December 6th Commences with
light winds from S.E. Ship heading NW by W and going
along slowly through the water. Crew busy yet in
setting up the rigging and lumbering gear.
Saw nothing remarkable, except the appearance of the
sky, which had the most peculiar look I ever noticed.
It was clouded over with a kind of haze, which gave
it the appearance of a hard-frozen one, and the ice
cracked in different places. It was rather to the better
and a sight worth going some way to see.
(Lat 15° 39" South
Course NW by W. Mind S.E. (Long 90° 40" West.

Friday December 7th Commences with
light winds & fine weather & so continues. This day will be
long remembered by the passengers & crew of Ship Albatross
as the Birth day of Mr. Heath one of our number. The evening
was celebrated in the cabin by drinking some excellent champagne
giving Toasts &c &c. After seeing things through in shape in
the cabin, Mr. Heath, Mr. Chandler & myself adjourned to the fore-castle,
to see what kind of a time they were having there. The found
them wide awake for fun. Having had just enough Cognac
to get them in a singing mood. He shall some first rate
songs & music on fiddle & accordion & after stopping there an
hour we adjourned to our staterooms, where old Somerset had
us soon in his embrace. The day was also made memorable
by the breaking out of some hams (it should be Flams!!)
To us, who since we left home, have had nothing to eat but
tainted Salt Beef & Pork. These will prove quite a treat.
(Lat 13° 07" South
Mind S.E. Force NW by W (Long 92° 52" West

Saturday December 8th 1849 Commences with strong winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. & going alone freely. Raised a sail at 5 am. Which afterwards proved to be the Ship Medford of Boston bound to San Francisco, which we left in Valparaiso on the 26th Inst. How she ever caught us God only knows. Had them for breakfast this morning, and it proved a sick treat at least to judge from the quantity eaten. which was something less than a whole one. How soon we shall get any more I don't know. Nothing else remarkable happened.

Inside S.E. Course N.W. & W. { Lat 12°38" South,
{ Long 94°50" West.

Sunday December 9th 1849 Commences with light winds from S.E. middle & latter parts much the same. The Medford on our weather quarter. hull down, and rather falling astern at that. I think, gives us strong winds, and the faster sail she carries we could outtail her either on a bouline, or before it. This day at sea, is always the longest, besides being the most pleasant of any. Since there is nothing doing on board ship, all are obliged to amuse themselves, with nothing to take up their attention. A "Stormy Petrel": (alias) ("another Carless Chicken") flew on board to day, or rather (to night) and one of the Officers could mean stepping on it; but did not. I believe. We caught one Ship Jack (a fish) to day and had a fry for dinner.

Course N.W. & W. { Lat 10°53" South
{ Long 96°40" West. Inside S.E.

Monday December 10th 1849 Commences with light winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. Nothing remarkable happened except we had them fried for breakfast quite a rarity. The crew engaged on the Rigging and Painting Ship, preparatory to entering the A.E. trades, which on this side the Land, blow so strong, as not to allow any thing of the kind being done, while in them, or rather under their influence.

Inside S.E. Course N.W. & W. { Lat 9°36" South from Hawke's, rather line
{ Long 98°07" West from Greenwich

Tuesday December 11th 1849 Commences with light winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. Ship Medford still in sight to the eastward. Crew employed this day on the Rigging and Picking Oakum. Nothing remarkable happened. That I saw or heard of. All well. We have now been going over two weeks without starting tack or heet. with Huddings sails out. No ends

Inside S.E. Course N.W. & W. { Lat 8°04" South.
{ Long 99°41" West

3 Ship Alexander Coffin Four Months out from Home
 Wednesday December 12th Commences
 with strong winds from S.E. Middle and latter parts the same
 ship Medford in sight ahead. Crew employed on Rigging and
 picking Oakum. The mate Mr. Jenny employed on the Skon
 and Daddy Fisher on his Boat, which by the way looks
 like any thing else but a Boat. Nothing Remarkable
 happened today.

(Lat 6°35" South
 Long 101°07" West
 Course N.W. Wind S.E.

Thursday December 13th Commences with light
 winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. The Medford drawing up with us
 having shifted her course, and is now steering off more for us, as if
 for a gain. (This is a word used to imply that Ships Run Company
 and the Officers & Crew exchange complement visits.) It helps greatly
 to relieve the Tedium of a Sea Voyage. I hope she will come
 close to us by morning. Nothing Remarkable happened this day.

(Lat 5°07" South
 Course N.W. Wind S.E. Rate 7 M. (Long 102°35" West



Friday December 14th Commences with
 light winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. Ship Medford still in sight from
 aloft. At 1 P.M. Raised a sail close aboard of us 3 points on our lee bow. She
 was on a wind steering N.E. when she was ahead of us, she hoisted up
 her mainsail and hauled aback. Then lowered a boat and the Captain
 came on board, the Mate (ours) and 3 of us passengers took their boat
 and a boat crew (of ours) and went on board Gammoning. She proved to be
 the Hope, Christian of New Bedford. 28^{mo} out 520. Hts 400 spm 120 feet.
 They gave us rather discouraging reports from California, so much so that
 I believe I should have gone straight home, could I have got the chance.
 We staid on board till nearly 9 P.M., then went on board our own
 ship and squared away for California. So ends all well.

(Lat 3°35" South
 Course N.W. Wind S.E. (Long 103°20" West

Saturday December 15th Commences with
 light winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. Ship Medford in sight off
 deck. At 9 am. Wind chopped round to N.E. I hope will hang
 there as long as it did at S.E. If it does I shall give her 3 weeks
 to San Francisco. Mr. Jenny finished the Skon today and tarred her
 sides and bottom, so she is already to take lumber ashore
 at San Francisco, that is if he can get any one to go with it. which
 I very much doubt. so I think a man will be a fool to work for
 5 or 6 dollars when he can make 50 perhaps.

(Lat 2°11" South
 at the Buries (Long None Taken

Ship Alex. Coffin 20 days from Valparaiso Across the Line!
Hurra! Hurra! Hurra! for Gold! and for the Gals! we Love! as the poet says

Sunday Dec 16th Commences with light winds from S.E. and Calms at 12 P.M. found ourselves 30 miles south of the Line so that now (4 P.M.) we are once more across it. After Dinner a fine breeze sprang up and wafted us on our way and by night it blew a pretty stiff breeze. Sunday at any time is a long day, but now it seems longer than usual, we are getting so impatient. But never mind we shall probably spend more than three ^{weeks} aboard the Alex Coffin, at least before her arrival at San Francisco. Nothing Remarkable happened this day ~~at sea~~.

(Lat 30 miles South
(Long 106° 01" West. Course N.W. by N.

Monday Dec. 17th Commences with Strong winds from S.E. Ship heading N.W. by N. and going along nicely. Nothing remarkable happened this day that I either saw or heard of, As we don't get the Newspaper every morning regularly, it is rather difficult to know what is going on in the busy world around. I for one am in hopes to make enough to this voyage to live ashore the rest of my life, where one can tell something near what is going on.

(Lat 1° 27" North
(Long None taken about 107° 00"

Tuesday Dec 18th Commences with strong winds from E.S.E. & S.E. Ship heading N.W. by N. and creeping along towards the Land of Gold. We can't get along half fast enough to suit me. I wish I had the patience of Job. I think it would stand me a good turn about now, however I have hopes now of getting in soon. Nothing Remarkable happened this 24 hours.

(Lat 3° 17"
(Long None taken about 109° 00"

Wednesday Dec 19th Commences with strong winds from E.S.E. with rain squalls occasionally through the day. Nothing remarkable happened this day, that came to my ears. All well. So Ends

Ship heading N.W. by N.

(Lat 5° 06"
(Long None taken

Thursday Dec 20th Commences with strong N.E. Trade. Thank God we have got them this side of land. Ship going along nicely. Nothing Remarkable happened except the loss of 5 Hats, by as many of the Crew & Passengers poor me I haven't lost any yet since we sailed. So Ends all well

Ship heading N.W. by N.

(Lat 6° 39" (must be a mistake)
(Long None taken.

Friday Dec 21 Commences with light N.E. Trades and so continues through the day, Ship heading N.W. and going along finely at the rate of 6 knots. Saw no land nothing remarkable this day. The sun to be getting nearer and nearer perceptibly to California.

(Lat $8^{\circ}58''$ North
Parted the fore of N.T. sail (Long 111.00 West
repaired it aloft

Saturday Dec 22 Commences with light Trades from N.E. Ship going along finely and getting still nearer to the land of Gold. Nothing remarkable happened to disturb the monotony of a sea voyage. Except some Gymnastics by Crew & Passengers, after Sun set, which were quite amusing. So Ends, Allent

(Lat $10^{\circ}29''$ North
(Long $112^{\circ}.20''$ West

Sunday Dec 23rd Commences with strong N.E. Trades. Ship going along finely, weather fine & warm in fact it would be called a beautiful day, even under the azure sky, of Italy. In these Latitudes in the Pacific, the nights are full as pleasant as the days. Sunday to me is always the longest and most delicious ^{day} in the week, but more especially is it so at sea. When nothing is going on to disturb the quiet: The Crew laying round busily engaged reading or rolling listlessly over the rail, contemplating on the future. The Passengers, some below reading & others collected in knots, on the quarter deck. Talking on their future prospects, and of their friends whom they have left behind, while they are bound towards their fortunes on the Briny Deep. Such is Sunday at sea. & such a day we have just passed through

Course N.W. Wind N.E.
(Lat $12^{\circ}29''$
(Long $114^{\circ}.01''$

Monday Dec. 24th Commences with fine strong N.E. Trades. Ship going along finely. We killed the Pig today which we got at Pulparesco in preparation for Christmas (Tomorrow). To night being Christmas Eve. Besides a sail on our weather bow a Bark bound the same way we are. Nothing new or remarkable happening.

(Lat $14^{\circ}.37''$
(Long $115^{\circ}.30''$

Tuesday Dec 25th 1849 Christmas Day! Christmas Day!
Wish you all a merry Christmas at home and every where
sail in sight off our weather Bow. This day commences
with strong wind from N.E. weather fine. Wind fresh
from N.E. We had a fine Christmas Supper to day of
roasted fresh pork. This is the only the second Christmas
I have spent out of the States. I hope there will
be but two more to be spent away from home. For
I think they can be spent more pleasantly then than
elsewhere. I have been thinking what sport the folks
are now having, making calls &c &c. But away with
such thoughts if I am lucky enough, to get a pile in
two or three years, I myself will take comfort enough, the
year through. The principal thing now is to get there
viz California — Nothing remarkable happened this day

(Lat 16° 43" North.
Winds N.E. Course N.W. (Long 117° 15" West.

Wednesday December 26th 1849.

Commences with fine weather wind from N.E. Ship
going along nicely through the water at the rate of 7 k.
Men employed on the rigging and such jobs. Preparing
to going into Port. There is some prospect of getting in now —
in the course of 10 or 12 days or three weeks at the most.
Nothing remarkable happened this day; that I saw or heard of
So Ends all well.

(Lat 18° 45" North.
Course N.W. Wind N.E. (Long 119° 42" West.

Thursday December 27th 1849

Commences with fine weather, wind from N.E. Ship
heading N.W. This is the way to go it & I hope we shall
keep going so till we get in, which if that is the case
will be about 10 days at the most. The weather begins to
grow cool, so much so, that one can easily perceive the difference
from one day to another. Nothing remarkable happened this day.

(Lat 20° 24" North
Course N.W. Wind N.E. (Long 121° 42" West.

Friday December 28th 1849

138 Days Out From New Bedford

This day commences with strong winds from N.E. Ship heading N.W. and going along nicely, God grant she may keep going so till we get in. Weather quite cool to day. Took in the waist boat on deck, and lashed the mast, preparatory to going in the Coast of California. They seem to expect rather rough times on the coast, but I don't apprehend anything very alarming. Because San Francisco is in lower latitude, than it is round our way, on the other side of Land. One thing I know, the week that is coming will be the longest one, any of us ever knew. Since we expect to get in Port, some time in the course of it. As it is only 900 miles distant from us now. Nothing Remarkable happened this day. So Ends All well.

Course N.W. Wind N.E.

Lat N. 21.50
Long Stone Taken —

Saturday Dec. 29th 1849. Commences with strong winds from E.N.E. & N.E. Ship heading N.W. & N.W. and going very slow. It is so rough the Capt. make any great head way. Took in Mizzen Top Gallant sail. & furled it. Some pretty sure signs of a change of wind soon. I don't care how soon. Towards night took in Fore & Main Top Gallant sails & fly. Lashed the waist Boat & lashed her on the house. Crew employed humpbugging round the ship. Nothing Remarkable happened this day. So Ends all well.

Course N.W. Wind N.E.

Lat 23.39"
Long 125.00"

Sunday Dec 30th 1849. Commences with cool, fine, weather. wind from N.E. Ship N.W. & N.W. We shall never get to California at this rate. Pray God the wind may shift soon. This day is another long one in the list of lengthy days. Crew employed ^{at} keeping the Sabbath, by washing and one thing & another. The wind kept knocking us off & in the night Tacked ship & stood off on the other tack. Squally weather with Rain. Nothing Remarkable happened this day. So Ends All well.

Course N.W. Wind N.E.

Lat 25.02" North
Long 126.12" West

Monday. Dec. 31. Last day of the Old Year.
This day commences with calm & fine weather. Hope
the Wind will come out somewhere for soon. Stand
on different Tacks throughout the day, not more than an
hour on any one at a time, Ship heading to all points
of the Compass. Crew employed on rigging and other jobs.
Towards night had a light air from W.N.W. Ship heading N.
So ends this the old year 1849. Adieu. We never shall see
the more. Those now art among the things that are
Past. Old Tim has laid his sickle at thy roots, and
swept thee off like Chaff. Thou hast gone to make
room for a younger & more vigorous year. Welcome - 1850!!
(Lat $25^{\circ}20''$)
(Long None Taken.)

Tuesday January 1st 1850. This Day
commences with fine weather and fair wind, although not
quite enough of it. This is a fine beginning for the new year,
I hope it will continue so, at least till we get in Port.
I wish all those whom I have left behind may have a happy
New Year & a prosperous one too. Although I am not near enough
to them to convey my wishes good & bad by words. (Yet probably
they will be as well off with them thought as expressed. God ^{grant} they
may. Nothing Remarkable happened This Day. That I saw
So ends The first day of 1850.

Wind W.N.W. Course North. (Lat. $26^{\circ}29''$)
(Long. None Taken.)

Wednesday January 2nd 1850. This
Day commences with fine weather, wind apt to Southward
Ship going ahead slow but sure towards her destined Port.
Let Studding sails aloft & aloft on both sides. I hope the
wind will stand so for a week, after that I don't care
how it is. Crew employed painting Boats &c. Are sending fitting
man rope stanchions in the Rail. Pray God they may
be use for them before long (say 4 days). Since the wind
hauled to the Southward the weather is rather warmer.
In fact in the day time tho it is nearly as warm as in
Summer it is with. Towards night the wind hauled on
our quarter, and heaved up stronger. So the Ship goes
Past. Nothing Remarkable happened. So ends all well
(Lat $28^{\circ}41''$)
(Course N. Wind S. (Long None Taken.)

Thursday January 3rd 1850. This Day
commenced with strong winds from the Eastward
Ship heading North and going along 8 knots more or
less. If this wind holds I shall give her till Sunday
noon. to get her Anchor down. Towards noon it
began to breeze stronger, so much so that we took
in all three Top Gallant sails, and at 9 P.M. her
under close reefed Topsails & Courses. Nothing
Remarkable Happened, So Ends. All Well.

(Lat 30° 27")

Course N. W. by E. East & by N. (Long None Taken)

Friday January 4th 1850. This Day
commenced with strong winds from Westward Ship going
along freely with Royals out. Saw Porpoises & took one.
After dinner it moderated, and was nearly calm till
towards night when a breeze sprang up from S.W. and
continued blowing on till 10 P.M. at which time as the
night before the ship was going off under close reefed
fore & main Topsails & foresail. Never mind, she is going a
good 7 knots under that sail. Blow away St. Antonio's.
never mind how much, if it be only in the right
place. Nothing Remarkable Happened.

Course N by E. Wind W to S.W. (Lat 33° 09")

(Long 125° 14" by Loran)

Saturday January 5th 1850 Turned
out this morning and found the wind in the same
old hole ship going along well enough, but it is tremendous rough.
All hands in high spirits expecting to make land tomorrow
and Sunday after. Pray God it may moderate for soon so we can
carry sail. We have got a perfect mainsail on her now but tis all
shut down at present. Weather pretty clear & cold, regular American
weather. though not as cold as on the other side of land
Nothing Remarkable happened this day. Saw a sail to Windward
turning to the Southward. So Ends all well.

(Lat 35° 29")

(Long 123° 12")

Sunday. January 6th 1849. 1850.

Commences with light winds from E. and so continues through the day. or rather forenoon. At noon the wind breezed on, and the old ship went through the water freely, but not enough, for us to get ashore today. Made Land at 2 P.M. In the morning we raised a sail forward of our Weather Beam, we soon sent her out. But after dinner hauled aback & spoke her, & found her to be the Ship Japan, Bigelow, of Boston. She sailed the 29th day of last July. 14 days out longer than ourselves. Poor fellows I pity them from the bottom of my heart. There is a hard lot. Their Longitude was the same as ours $122^{\circ}45''$ W. but their Latitude much different $37^{\circ}24''$. After speaking her we braced forward, and stood after her, and soon got her in her place; Astor of us. Towards night took in topgallant sails & reefed the Topsails, intending to lay to on different tacks all night, as the weather is too dark and foggy to think of running in to night. The bravery of our Captain is now doubted by none as it is a well known fact to all on board, that he keeps all his firearms loaded, and never thinks of turning in without a pair of Pistols under his pillow. All well. H. Ends Hurra for California
Course N by E. Wind S.E. { Lat $36^{\circ}55''$
{ Long $122^{\circ}45''$

Monday January 7th 1850

This day commences with fine winds from E.E. Land in sight now at 3 P.M. we can see the City, to judge from the Forest of masts, one would suppose that there were a great many vessels in the Port. We are going in in company with 17 ships & Barks all Americans. We bent the lot going in. The City is now only 4 miles off Goddy; Goddy; I can't believe it hardly. Tomorrow I am in hopes to give some description of San Francisco, and the adjacent Country. God grant it.

{ Lat 37.49
{ Long 122.14

314574

114.17

18.40
15.40
14.40
18.40

35.00
25.00

122.50

15.50

2.60

2.50

1.27.4

3.75

5.00

3127 1/2

15.74

2.00

6.40

25.00

145.75

4.00

6.00

1.00

6.00

320.127 1/2
26172

James Smith 1840

New York Harbor June 3rd
Gen. Chas. C. Hansen, Capt. Peter Smith
Sailed from Pier 13 East River for
Holland N.Y. at about 10 o'clock June 3rd
After towing to Jersey Flats we let go
Anchor, and lay until about 6 o'clock
when we again got under way and
beat down towards Sandy Hook
The wind increasing light after about
an hour, we came to anchor Staten
Island and there lay all night.

Off Staten Island June 4th
Went on deck this morning and found
it thick fog and a stark calm after
getting our Hot Coffee, shifted our
lumber from the waist to the quarter deck
the vessel being by the head. Got under
way and ran as far as Quanauntue
Island - then let go anchor and lay
all night weather still foggy & some
light.

At Sea. June 5th 1869
Got under way this morning at about
6 1/2 o'clock and beat out by Sandy Hook
Wind continuing to breeze up - at 10 1/2 o'clock
we were going along fairly, steering about
E.S.E. - Just before 12 m. The Capt.
called to us that if we wished to speak
the Bark Burnside there would some be a
chance - went on deck and sure enough
there was the Burnside on our weather bow
and not more than 1/4 of a mile off - The
Capt & mate were aft by the wheel House and
the second mate on the house we hoisted the
Main and they answered we hauled some
time constantly nearing them, when we
were about they crossed our Stern in
easy hauling distance we wished each other
Bark Voyage and so we separated to visit
Amen; - When we came up from dinner I de

was Haul from standing 2.30. We stood
on the inner tack heading S.W. till 5.14.
When we went about and stood up. When we
tacked any more N.W. was then about
seen after we had quite a little squall from
N.W. took in everything but 100 & 1000 and
let her out. After the squall we had a fair
wind for the rest of the day night. Sea was
bumpy S by E.

Sunday June 7th Fine Wind
in night. weather fine wind fair course
S.S.E. going along nicely - so continued through
the 24 hours.

Monday June 8th Wind
Fair - Course S.S.E. - weather fine - During
the day saw & passed several ships
all as we believe now in the Gulf Stream
hope to be through soon - nothing
unusual happened this 24 hours.

Tuesday June 8th
Commenced with fair strong breeze -
from N.E. course S.S.E. Weather very
fine in day - During the night
passed several vessels (all in day)
Close aboard - have seen several in
morning and - saw them out of sight
at 11 o'clock Am. (they were then
too in sight -

BINDER'S NOTE

Author:

Title: Journal of A Voyage from New Bedford to California in
Place and date: Ship ALEXANDER COFFIN 1849

Condition when received: Foolscape note book with rotten leather spine and corners and worn marbled sides. Whale stamp on front pastedown. Contents stained along spine by oil or grease. Covers separating from book.

Disassembled book and removed oil stains with solvent. Washed out solvent with alcohol and gave final wash with hot water. Mended and guarded as necessary and resewed on four tapes

Work performed:

through original holes. Fastened to new boards and covered spine and corners with acid free leather and sides with new marbled paper over which replaced original marbled sides. New end sheets of hand made marbled paper with original paste down replaced.

Signed _____ 19__

George M. Cunha, October 1965

